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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Broward County Water Preserve Areas Project Implementation Report and Environmental Impact Statement Completed

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Jacksonville District, in cooperation with its partner, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), has completed an Integrated Final Project Implementation Report (PIR) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Broward County Water Preserve Areas (BCWPA) located in Broward County, Fla.

The final report describes the purpose and need for the project, location, alternatives considered, and the selected alternative. The USACE Chief of Engineers' report will be prepared based on the Final PIR.

The selected plan, at a cost of \$746,980,000 (October 2006 price levels), includes two above-ground impoundments and associated pump stations and water control structures: the C-11 Impoundment with an effective interior storage of 1,068 acres and two wetland marsh mitigation areas north of the C-11 Impoundment with 488 acres of wetland marsh; the C-9 Impoundment with an effective interior storage of 1,641 acres and two wetland marsh mitigation areas north of the C-9 Impoundment with 339 acres of wetland marsh; canal conveyance improvements to connect the two impoundments; and an approximately 4,633 acre seepage management area east of the Water Conservation Areas.

The selected plan affirmed that a seepage management buffer in combination with above-ground storage reservoirs (including pump stations and water control structures) and associated conveyance is



a cost-effective solution for achieving system-wide benefits in the south Florida ecosystem. The seepage management area would allow the water that is in the Water Conservation Area (WCA) 3 to remain in WCA 3 and be available for deliveries into Everglades National Park.

The above-ground storage reservoirs will eliminate the need to discharge water from the C-11 Basin in western Broward County, through the S-9 pump station, into WCA 3 by storing it in the C-9 and C-11 impoundments and releasing it to better meet the needs of the project area. In addition, the plan achieves the benefits of the project as previously developed for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

The final draft report may be viewed and comments may be submitted at www.evergladesplan.org. Comments on the report will be accepted through June 2, 2007.